

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application claims 4, 5, and 7-17, of which claims 4, 5, 16, and 17 are independent. Claims 1 and 3 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter. No claims have been added.

Claims 11-13 and 17 stand allowed. As none of these claims has been further amended, they remain in condition for allowance.

Claim 4 was identified as reciting patentable subject matter and being allowable if rewritten in independent form. As the Examiner will appreciate, claim 4 has been so written and thus claim 4 is now in condition for allowance. Claim 5 was objected to because of two informalities therein. Applicant has addressed those informalities and therefore respectfully submit that claim 5 is now in condition for allowance.

Claims 7-10 depend from claim 5 and are therefore patentable for the reasons above with respect to claim 5. In addition, each recite features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

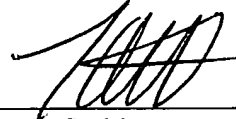
Dependent claims 14 and 15 have been amended to correct the dependency therein. As each depend ultimately from a claim that has been allowed or is in condition for allowance, each of claims 14 and 15 is likewise now in condition for allowance.

Finally, claim 16 has been amended to address the informalities cited therein. Claim 16 is therefor now in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application has been placed in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and early passage to issue are respectfully sought.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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